Applicant: Aladar Szalay et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 17248-004US1/4804US

Serial No.: 10/516,785 Filed: June 27, 2005

ELECTON AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-9, 12-16, 18 and 20, cancel claims 17 and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer and add claims 21 and 22 as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

administering to a subject for whom the presence or absence of a wound, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith is to be detected, a microorganism or cell, wherein the microorganism or cell is detectable in the subject; and

monitoring the subject for detection of the microorganism or cell to detect the accumulation of the microorganism or cell at a wound, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue in the subject, whereby, detection of the accumulation indicates the location of the wound, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue.

- 2. (Currently Amended) A The method of claim 1, wherein the comprising:
  administering to a subject having a wound, wounded tissue, inflamed tissue or a
  disease associated therewith a microorganism or cell detectable in a subject, wherein said
  microorganism or cell contains one or more nucleic acid sequences encoding microorganism
  or cell encodes a protein(s) suitable for the therapy of a wound, wounded tissue, or inflamed
  tissue or a disease associated therewith.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the microorganism or cell encodes contains a nucleic acid encoding a luminescent or fluorescent protein.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said-the microorganism or cell encodes a luminescent or fluorescent protein that is a luciferase, RFP or GFP red fluorescent protein or green fluorescent protein.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the microorganism or cell encodes a protein(s) for the production of said microorganism or cell additionally contains a nucleic acid encoding a substrate for a luciferase.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the microorganism or cell-contains a nucleic acid encoding encodes a protein capable of inducing a that induces a signal detectable by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or capable of binding a that binds to contrasting agent, chromophore or a ligand.

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7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said the microorganism is a bacterium or a virus.

- 8. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein said the virus is Vaccinia virus.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein said the bacterium is selected from the group consisting of among an attenuated Salmonella thyphimurium, an attenuated Vibrio cholerae, an attenuated Listeria monocytogenes and E. coli.
- 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.
- 11. (Previously presented, Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the mammalian cell is an autologous or heterologous stem cell.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said the protein suitable for the therapy of a wound, wounded tissue, inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith is an enzyme eausing that causes cell death or an enzyme eausing that causes the digestion of debris.
- 13. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein said the disease is selected the group consisting of among endocarditis, pericarditis, inflammatory bowel disease, low back pain (herniated nucleus pulposis), temporal arteritis, polyarteritis nodosa and an arthritic disease.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said the disease is an atherosclerotic disease.
- 15. (Currently Amended, Withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein said the disease is selected the group consisting of among coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease and cerebral artery disease.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said the monitoring is performed earried out by MRI by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).
  - 17. (Cancelled).
- 18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is under the control of the microorganism or cell contains an inducible promoter that regulates the expression of the therapeutic protein for the therapy.
  - 19. (Cancelled).

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20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the microorganism or cell replicates in the subject, is not pathogenic to the subject and is recognized by the immune system of the subject.

21. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein:

the disease is an atherosclerotic disease; and

the therapeutic protein is selected from among a lipase, protease, lysozyme, proapoptotic factor and PPAR-agonist.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising: administering a therapeutic agent for the therapy of a wound, wounded tissue, inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith.